

**VOYAGERS
CANOE TRIPS**

Winter Newsletter

2025-26

Salut!

Good to see you all again, and can you believe we are already now in the grips of the winter season? Well, for some of us, the colder temperatures are a 'warm welcome' compared to the three months' worth of 90 degree temps this past summer! But, alas, here we are.

How many of you readers attended one or more of our past year's canoe trips? Have you shared what was taught, and what you enjoyed about them? Either way, this is our goal, to share with the reader what the Voyagers accomplish, and our adventures, purpose and future goals! This past year we've paddled the Muskegon, and the Au Sable Rivers! Our love for the quiet waters, and our deep love of the North's Pinerias, we hope are conveyed to you throughout this reading. It is our focus to 'plant seeds' in the pockets of the young folks who attend, so that in time, we replace ourselves with others who are committed to leadership in their homes, communities, states and our nation.

Fly-fishing, Archery and Target Practice, coupled with pole-boxing, orienteering, survival skills and other bush-craft-related tasks, all play a role in equipping tomorrow's leaders with enough practical experience to allow them to live healthy and productive lives, never again telling themselves they cannot do something! But empowering them with the idea that all things can be accomplished, if you put your mind to it!

Over the course of the next fifteen or twenty minutes, we hope you'll find something of interest and something you will pass along to another, or perhaps you maybe learn a thing or two about a thing or two. We sure hope so!

Photo Right > Launching at Alcona –
Rough-housing in Camp



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- Sponsorship Importance
- The Old Portage Road
- Cruiser Axe Awards and how to earn other Great Awards
- Voyagers Badges – Earning your badge after three trips with the Voyagers
- Conservation - Where is the state of Michigan today
- The Ol' Camp Kitchen – another great recipe to try at home
- Fly Fishing Trip
- Early Michigan Hunting Digest

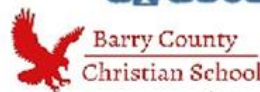
VOYAGERS 2026 SCHEDULES

- **SPRING CANOE / FLY FISHING TRIP – May 1ST – 3RD 2026**
- **Father/Daughter CANOE TRIP** **September 25th > 27th**
- **FALL CANOE TRIP** **October 23rd > 25th**

Voyagers 2026 Planned Canoe Trips



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You!**



**The Bartz's
The Cantu's**

**The Hurley's
The Priddy's
The Jerue's**



**The Wood's
The Roth's**

The Bursley's

The Boerema's

The Old Portage Road

There are few Indian trails of any great length or of special historic importance at the Les Cheneaux, but there are many short ones. The most important in point of length was the old trail leading from the Sault [Sault Ste. Marie], more than forty miles long, which reached Les Cheneaux at the present site of Hessel. Many short trails follow the shore of Lake Huron, some simply used to shorten distances across the many small peninsulas jutting out of the mainland and the narrow parts of many of these islands. Most of these trails can still be easily found and followed, as the trails themselves were worn deep into the earth. The trails remain due to the continued use for many years (Centuries). If you're in the area, some sleuthing outside of the developed areas in and along the coastline, you can find some of the ancient portages. But, one hundred years ago, in many instances, a man could locate those ancient trails by following the blaze marks (probably of white origin) on the trees, they were still plainly visible!



Many of these trails were used as portages or 'carrying places', one of which was a receiving place with a very special mention was "The Old Portage Road." It ran east and west through the forest across the northern part of Point Brulee, beginning immediately west of Rogers' island, leading to Search Bay, and continuing again across Saint Martin's point to Saint Martin's bay. For those of you who paddled the Pine late this past fall, St. Martins Bay is where the Pine empties into Lake Huron.

This old portage road is indeed an ancient highway, as it was used often by the explorers and early voyageurs, quite probably by the Indians allied to the British, when they attacked Fort Mackinac in 1812, and according to Indian tradition for 'unreckoned' time by the Indians themselves, as one relator stated, as far back as "since the year One."

This old portage road has been frequently used in the earlier portions of the previous century for winter travel to Mackinac, the journey being made by teamsters. In earlier years, it was also used with sleds drawn by dogs. The route from Les Cheneaux to Mackinac or Saint Ignace was on land across Points Brulee and Saint Martin's and over the ice of Search Bay and the straits for the remainder of the distance. Taking almost the identical route traveled by Father Claude Allouez on the 5th day of November 1699, and by Father Piret with his dog team during the years 1850- 1860. For many years it was the mail route in winter as well. The mail was toted along this road, partly over ice, and partly overland.

In many places the old and forgotten Indian trails, which truly are of a great historic importance have been passed over by modern historians. Perhaps this is only a temporary issue, as this was not always the case. Some years ago, in the good ol' 19-teens, one writer who devoted himself to a book on this subject of "Red Men's Roads — The Indian Thoroughfares of the Central West." Such trails often connected via the most direct routes, prominent places and trading posts, were later used by the pioneers, and finally became established roads and great modern thoroughfares. Here, however, Indian travel is and ever has been almost entirely by water, as the Indians of the Great Lakes were expert canoe-men.

Further mention of these Indian trails, portages and carrying places, cannot be exhaustively mentioned here, but the trails, and they're stories present a very interesting subject for investigation. It is to be hoped that one day, or rather during some summer season, some diligent antiquarian will spend a useful vacation here, reading a chapter or two of the Indian history throughout the historic Les Cheneaux, Ripples from the Breeze, or of the 'Chronicles', with more detail, and with modern and more accurate maps. It is believed that a wonderful adventure still awaits those who seek it in the region along Lake Huron's northern shore. Even now, despite civilization's dent into the pineries, there is much to be discovered along what the old timers knew as The Old Portage Road.

VOYAGER AWARDS

Ever wonder what separates good leaders from great ones? How do they consistently inspire trust, drive change, and build a legacy? The answer is, they seek to understand the laws of leadership. Remember, a true leader inspires. They take what they learn, and share it, inspiring others to grow, improve and in turn, teach and inspire the next generation.

We start here, beginning with the end in mind. So, we ask ourselves: What do I want people to say about me at the end of my life/career? The Voyagers started in 2012 with this vision, and continue this same vision today. Help the young people to see themselves at 60 years of age... The axes, knives, packs, rifles or other gear simply reinforces the chance each youth will at some point in their life recall what was talked about, or how they were encouraged on every canoe trip. The words 'PER ARDUA' stamped into the leather, or written on the handles of axes, ensures they will not forget the decision they will need to make when times get tough.

[BELOW – CJ GARDNER HOLDING A CATTLEMAN’S CABINE EARNED FALL 2025]



Our nation needs strong leadership in the home, at work, and in governing our many departments. Conservation for example, what will become of the love of the outdoors without conscious, well educated young men who have real character? Can the country continue to enjoy the fruits of our labor without leadership? We believe it's worth every ounce we invest into each and every trip! Competition breeds cooperation.

We believe this is another true statement, with young men. Some will take home the prize, and others will have to wait. This is the proper order of things. In life, there will always be winners and losers. Additionally, it is important to be clear, not everyone wins, all the time, but consistency ensures your chances will increase. The truth is not always convenient, but remember, too much sunshine creates a desert.

"Leadership isn't about being the best. It's about making others better."

How you can do the same?

- Shift your mindset from competition to collaboration.
- Look for opportunities where everyone benefits.

Inspire every youth to seek first to understand, then be understood. Invest in the group and think win-win. This approach builds trust and opens doors, as well as increases the chance for a youth to win an award.

The Voyagers invest in our youth, great gear, durable, well-made gear that will stand the test of time. We know it will never be sold in a yard sale, ensuring the next generation considers the values we uphold here today.

VOYAGERS BADGES



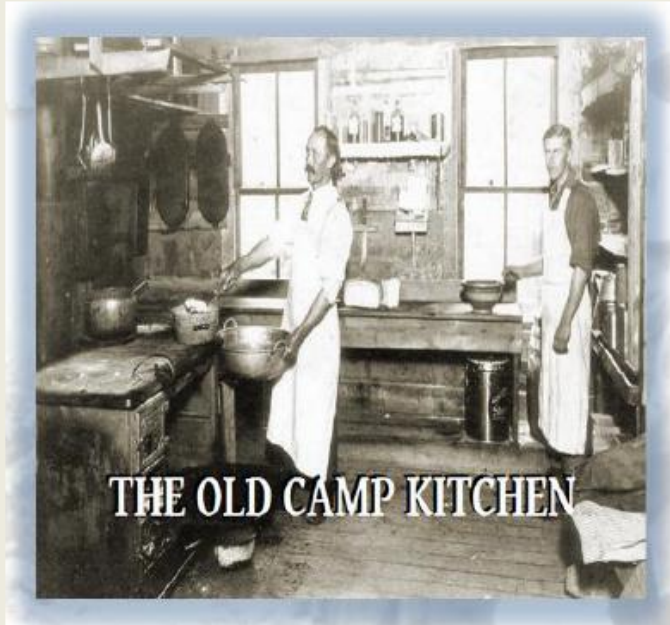
The Voyagers Leather Badge, handmade for each young man, illustrates that they have made three trips with the Voyagers. This totals nine days and six nights, signifying they have learned the essentials of 'roughing it' with the Voyagers. Each trip requires many tasks to be completed, by the hour or by the day, and everyone is a part of the process. Equally, the third trip also illustrates what they have achieved, in almost all cases, between 45 and 65 miles of paddling. This makes them eligible for special 'Badge Holders' trips. The Badge Holder Trip is typically scheduled with shorter notice and will be on rivers that are more technical (primarily found in the U.P.).

Three trips do not make any paddler an expert, but it should prepare them to become proficient.

The RSVP process is still required, and the fees may differ slightly.

Again, the Voyagers are interesting in inspiring our youth to become men of character, capable of leading others to do the right things. The tasks required on all Voyagers trips attempt to do just that, and the reward is, for those who are willing, a more challenging canoe voyage in more remote country.

Are you holding a badge now? Be sure to keep it with you on all Voyager Trips. Why? To inspire others and show the younger men you've accomplished something.



Camp Cobbler

1 can Large sliced peaches
1 can Large fruit cocktail
1 can Small crushed pineapples
½ cup Instant tapioca
¼ lb Margarine
1 cup Brown sugar
1 pk Cake mix

In a 12 inch foil lined Dutch oven, combine fruit and tapioca. Sprinkle cake mix evenly over top of fruit. Sprinkle brown sugar over cake mix. Dab butter All over top of brown sugar. Place lid on oven. Bake 45 minutes to one hour. USE six to eight coals on the bottom, and fourteen to sixteen coals on the top. Cake is done when top is brown and cake has absorbed juices and is no longer dry.

Do you have any recipes to share? Please feel free to send us some of your thoughts, and we will include them in one of our newsletters.

Interesting Fact: The Voyagers have been working to keep authenticity in their methods since our inception back in 2012. This means we try to keep the old ways alive, in how we do things in camp. Our cooking is done on a 1923 KampKook three burner stove, and all of our pans are cast iron. The cast iron skillet is a favorite with the men, as it is used to fry up our Briskett, and fry up our cakes and french toast! The best ingredients are used. Real ingredients, quality, so as to cook up meals worth talking about! True, this makes packing our gear heavier, but it makes the trip so much more memorable. Try it for yourself and you'll see the difference it will make.

Picture from the Past: [Voyagers 2016](#). Can you name any of those young men?



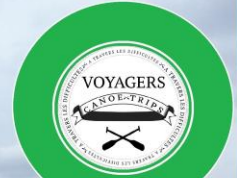


WHY ATTEND A VOYAGERS CANOE TRIP?

- Adventure
- Competitions
- Axe & Knife Throwing
- Canoe Races
- Rope Bridge Building
- Woods Tromps
- Fishing
- Leadership
- Spiritual Encouragement

There are many reasons to [RSVP today](#). Take a step back in time to enjoy camping the way it was done 100 years ago, you will not be sorry.

Sign Up Now!



2026



BATTEAU CREW, MUSKEGON RIVER - 1888



(over)

Left is a photo taken back in 1888, near Newaygo, Michigan. This is one of the Voyager stomping grounds during our spring fly-fishing trip.

The river crews started, near Big Rapids, in the Spring of the year and it was their job to keep the logs moving until they reached Muskegon, preventing jams in the river. There were usually 125 to 150 men in each of the crews and they lived on canvass covered scows, shown in this picture. There were usually three scows for each crew, one for cooking and eating quarters and two for sleeping quarters. The work on the river was hard and hazardous. Men had to be strong and fast on their feet, which is a great example for all men to live by today.

Voyagers Fall 2025

Canoe Trip



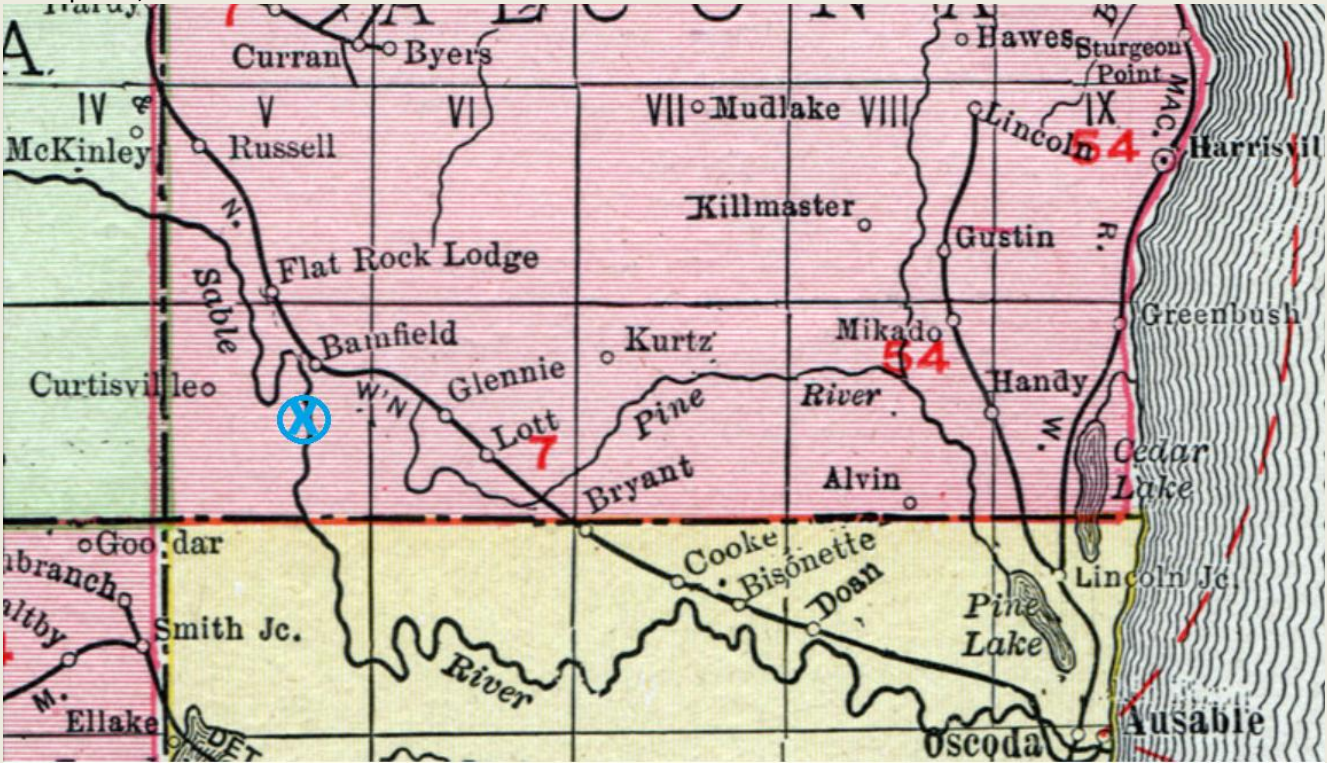
Last fall the Voyagers departed Hastings, Michigan for the 13th year in a row, to head north into the Au Sable river valley for yet another paddle down one of the best rivers in our state! The weather had been cooling as we neared the end of October, and the forecast was calling for some rain, but that didn't slow anyone down – I believe every man was amped up, and ready for another chance to sleep under the stars and take in some of the great wild places that still exist along that great river.

As usual, we were getting things around about 5 am, which included coffee, breakfast sliders and a number of last minute items needed for equipping the attendees. Each time we set out, the morning seems to fly by us making it quite easy to forget things, so its great to have help packing, setting out packs and dry bags as well as seeing to it everyone

gets checked in, and directed properly. We sure appreciate all the assistance provided by the many volunteers each year, it really does make a difference! Thank you.

By 8:30 am we were bounding down the highway headed north. Getting out on the road early typically means a better chance we'll get to camp and set up long before dark, which is optimal especially when we know inclement weather could play a role. But, this day there was high hopes, knowing that in the past, our best trips were those with rail was present, or so the legend goes.

We rolled up I-75, and before long we were turning up US-23, and then onto M-65, where we'd turn off to make the final leg of the trip down the big hill in to the Au Sable River valley, at a place known as Bamfield, or 'Flatrock Lodge', along the old right of way for the [Au Sable & North Western RR](#). Today the Alcona Dam, and its backwaters conceal the old river bed, which had a very characteristic oxbow, shown in the illustration below, just above the Blue X. This is where we put in, on the bottom side of the Alcona Dam.



The region itself is loaded with history! If you're a fan of the logging era, Alcona county had a lot to offer, as do the many surrounding counties. Many of the names for the towns, the roads or landings along the river have their roots in the era where Michigan's white pine giants were cut and floated down the river to the many mills along its course.

The Ford was gearing down as we descended the big hill, with everyone admiring the amazing view of the entire valley.



In less than five minutes the gang were piling out of the vehicles and headed for the outhouse or the river launch! Gear was unloaded, canoes were lifted off the trailer, and the mad dash to load the canoes was on! Now, for those of you reading through this, and want to know, or rather better understand the process, we would like to inform you that the process does begin with a clear understanding of what is expecting. This means there is order, in spite of the excitement.

It is a good thing that the young men are excited, why, to tell you the truth I am excited, and I feel the same way I did the times before, proving there is something about a river, and a camp along the banks. Something that attracts the spirit of a man. The smell of the air, and the color of the water. The towering white pines and the visions of your imagination all play a critical role in this excitement!

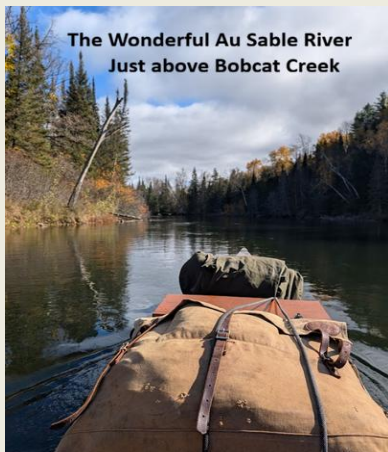


The gear, stored in wooden crates is carried down to the launch, along with the canoes. This is kept separate from the personal gear, or canoe packs each of the young men are issued. This makes packing a cinch. We load the heavier freighter canoes, and spread out the critical gear in canoes piloted by Voyager guides or those who have ample space, when necessary. True, we do carry more weight than the modern canoeist, but we are doing so in keeping with our desire to keep the past alive. This gear, much of which is 95+ years old, is no doubt heavier – cumbersome even, but it also carries with it the lore of bygone ages, and in some cases, we honor those who went ahead of us, like Ben Richardson and Craig Wood, whose gear we keep with us today! There is an appeal to a crate that has 'SOO CANADA 1930' written under the lid.

Now, this year we added yet another wood canvas canoe, our Old Town 50! This is one of the restorations done this past year by our friends at Kerr Canoe, near Florence, Wisconsin. The Old Town 50 is a pretty unique canoe – pictured right, with a weight of only 50 LBS. This model is a series of light-weight versions of the H. W. model. They come in 11', 13' and 15' lengths and weigh 50, 53 and 58 pounds respectively. The canoes are constructed with ribs ¼" thick to produce canoes which are easy to portage. Modest tumblehome sides (our favorite) extends the entire length of the canoe and the bottom has a semi-arch and fine entry lines as you can see.



The result is a versatile all-purpose canoe. Personally, I enjoy the longer canoes, 18 footers or greater, but the 15 foot model is definitely a great canoe for packing light, trapping and solo trips. It is light, quick and both steady and agile to handle rivers and lakes with ease – just ask our Boule Andy Jerue!



The fleet of Voyager Canoes will continue to shift towards the wood/canvas models, but we will likely supplement the aluminum canoes as needed. We will also continue to use our kevlar fleet for all Badge holder trips, and on technical rivers in the north country.

Ok, back to the Fall trip. So, it turned out to be another wonderful fall day, light breezes, and little fear of a soaker! No doubt, we did get a few sprinkles, but alas that is all they were, not a paddler getting soaked or even damp! And the sunshine, well that was with us throughout the entire weekend!

So down the river we paddled, me following up the rear, the lead, now several bends ahead of the ol' freighter canoe... Whenever we have an odd number of attendees, it makes sense to add more freight to the big Michi-craft canoe, and run solo. This solves a myriad of issues, and keeps the chances for speed optimized.



Fall trips down the Au Sable are without a question one of my favorites, and the favorite of many others also – to be sure. This trip we had two dad's who attended with their son's, which is a great thing to see. This is a right of passage, the Voyagers working to maintain this as a key benefit to the trip. A young man, being affirmed of his becoming a man is the foundation of our trips.

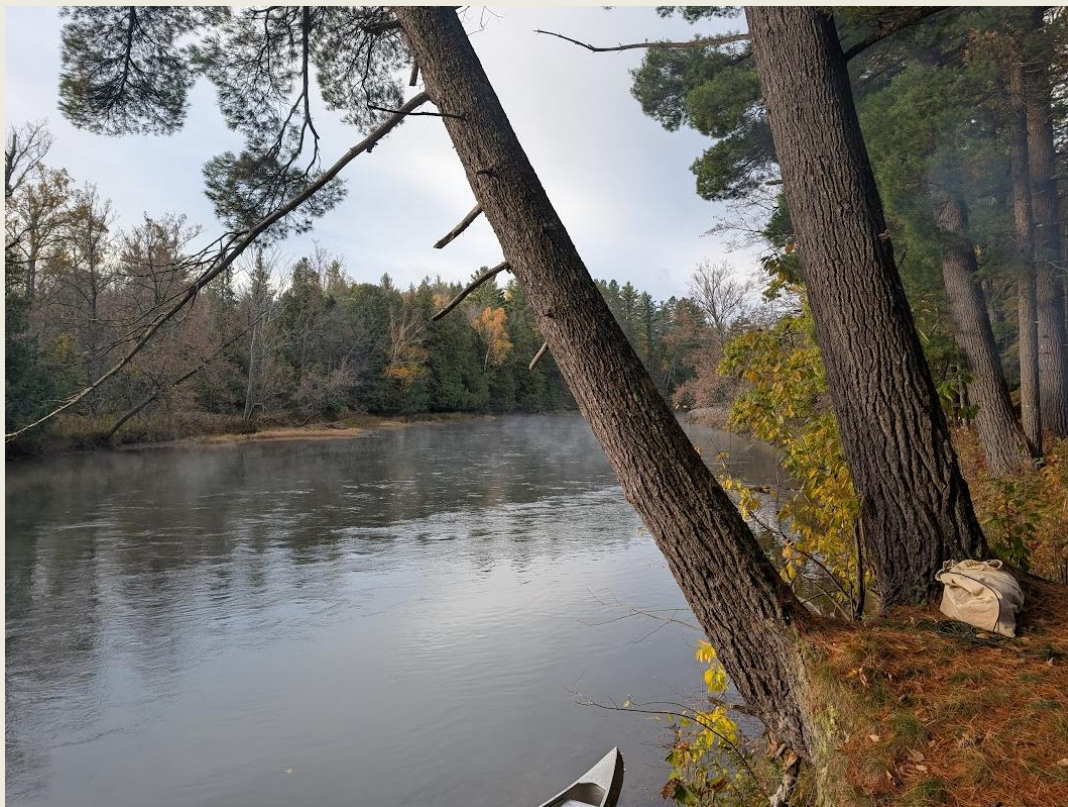
As we paddle, there are always numerous small enclaves of canoes, and the varied discussions – they will bring a smile to your face as it is clear each party is enjoying the river. Eagles passing over us, or the Jays, the Sparrows or maybe the sound of our friend the Kingfisher! A fish jumping at the foot of a rapid, and the quaking of the aspen leaves with the dark green backdrop of the black spruces waving in the breeze. This is autumn in the north, the warm breeze will fade as the sun begins

fall over the trees... the group knows this, so once again, they put those paddles to work – speeding up the trip into camp. The clouds tell us we may see a shower or two, so this information lends itself to a paddlers performance.

However, in spite of the anxious feelings, it is evident the entire group is at peace. There is an echo of laughter from time to time, and hoots and hollars, everyone of them brimming with a sense of adventure. Its hard to place a price tag on something like that.

Along this section of the river there are a few waterfalls. One of them, a significant fall, is really an interesting sight. The water pouring over this fall, which is mostly deep clay banks, cannot easily be accessed from the river, as the bank is very soft. The noise is audible however, long before you reach its location. There are few others in this vicinity, smaller in size.

The current speed was up a bit this day, and within three hours, we rounded the bend and saw canoe camp ahead – on the left bank. Hand gestures, and a few hoots to the crowd, and the convoy was headed to the left bank of the river.



This particular canoe camp, which we have used in past years, offers an excellent view of the river as it allows a view both up and down river, situated as it is on a bend. The large mature white pines here, some over one hundred and twenty feet high, give the camp a nostalgic feel, especially those big trunks that hang out over the river.

As the canoes come up along the shore, gear is unloaded and handed up to those high up on the banks. There is a five foot climb here, so this adds to the manual labor part of the trip, with the silver lining being *'we eat our selves to a lighter load'* at the end of the trip, per our Boule andy Jerue. A very true statement!



As quickly as the gear is brought up top, we pull a few of the canoes up, and set about clearing, cleaning and prep work around the site. Crews are selected, and we all set about gathering kindling, firewood, digging the latrine and setting up the Camp Kitchen. By now the gang is getting plenty hungry! The meat sticks and cheese fed to the troops at the launch have now faded away, leaving the grumbling stomachs calling for the evening meal! Tonight we're breaking out the brisket, along with peas and potatoes – spicy, mashed – Mmm-Mmm Good!



Saturday morning dawned with coffee brewing in the chuck house, somewhere about 5:30 am. The steam rolled off the percolator, heating ever so slightly the interior of the kitchen tent [The only tent the Voyagers use], which felt pretty darn nice that morning. The mercury said the temperature was down in the low thirties, so a little hot coffee, or some hot chicken soup sounded pretty good – to take off that chill!

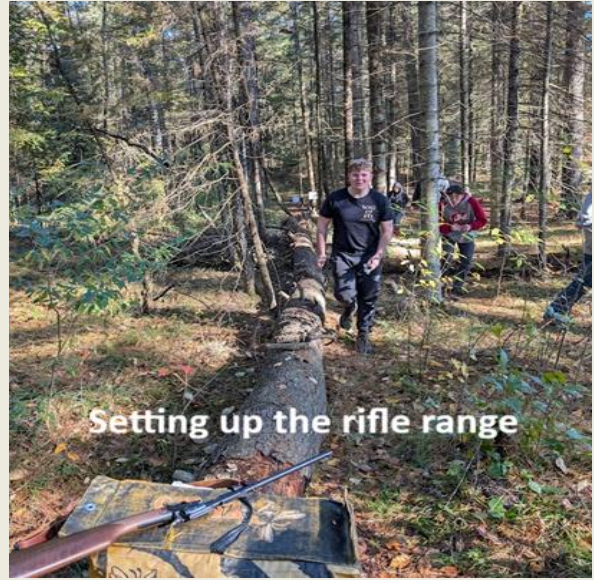
Next came breakfast. The camp kitchen was hummin by 7 am, with hotcakes, potatoes, sausage, bacon and eggs preparing! In addition to the hot coffee we have ice cold Pineapple Juice, Tomato Juice and Milk. Water, drawn from the river is used for drinking, purified by the several [GRAYL purifiers](#) we carry. If you're planning a camping trip, or paddle, purchasing one of the GRAYL products makes really good sense. This purifier removes waterborne pathogens (virus, bacteria, protozoa) and filters microplastics, a number of chemicals (including PFAS and VOCs), potential pesticides, herbicides, heavy metals, foul tastes, odors and colors. Just ask one of the men who use the GRAYL, they will tell you its hard to beat – especially looking at how far we have come in just the past fifteen years.

Breakfast, always made to order is hot, savory with enough to feed to the army. The Voyagers take steps to ensure each meal is created from scratch (or close to it) right there in camp! We purchase quality ingredients, never using the sketchy cheap brands, nor do we use the quicck and easy route in feeding the troops! Food, we all agree this truly makes the camp a lot more enjoyable, so it makes sense to go the distance, buy quality, and reap the rewards! Wrapping up, there are two volunteers who grab a pail of river water, heat it up, and set about doing the dishes. This is one of the many chores done around the camp.



After breakfast the group moved to take on archery! This is a new venue for the Voyagers, which has proven to be a complete hit! We have borrowed Seth McLeod's archery target for the trip, and it worked out pretty well! The archery was added to the number of events, including target practice using our Heritage .22's, Cattleman's Carbines. This is yet another hit, both of which are also awards the young men have a chance to earn through the competitions.

Competition breeds cooperation, the Voyagers being all about that! We have witnessed the bond, comradery, and sportsmanship grow among the young men over the course of the long weekend, proving this is a real value to them. Do they all win? No, not always, but if they stay after it, and work to do better, all of the attendees have a chance to take home an award. Knives, bows, rifles, compass, hatchets or axes, or maybe canoe packs and other quality gear – that we believe will last them a lifetime. Why? Well, we know that teaching about value pays dividends. We also believe that using good quality gear pays dividends. When the young men have a chance to use, and work with such gear, they too will want the best. Today's generation's infatuation with 'cheap things' stems from the lack of knowledge about quality – food, gear and how we treat one another! Once they see the value, they'll want more.



Rifles were broken out in the afternoon, and two range bosses were in play, selecting, overseeing and governing the process. Just as we do with archery, there are a few men (guides) keeping track of scores. This leads to eliminations, eventually leading to the final competition between those who are in the finals. This year we awarded both a bow, and a rifle, through Al & Pete's Sport Shop in Hastings, Michigan.



The competition usually lasts between 1.5 and 2 hours, a great use of time in the afternoon, and who could beat such a shoot on a wonderful fall afternoon on the Au Sable? The weather could not be beaten, not on this day, and we could all tell. Everyone was brimming with excitement, and the rifle reports ringing through the pineries...who wouldn't love that?



The camp was full of men, young and old, enjoying themselves – immensely this afternoon, ending with a few rounds of Pole Boxing, though we forfeited the pole in this case, so they went free-style! Good for a few good laughs, which you can watch on our website – www.voyagerscanoetrips.com.

As the shadows got longer, the appetites got larger, and why wouldnt they, tonight we were putting pork steaks on the fire, and a few Rib eye to complete the meal. All this, plus those loaded mashed taters, beans and fruit – after all, they earned it today...no question about it.

By the evening meal, we could see the young men were beginning to lose their 'punch', and after a good meal was taken in, they were ready for a nap! We did have our evening talk and devotion around the fire, which always yields a great deal of value. Saturday, as the fire crackled and snapped, we broke out the 'goods' [chocolate etc.] and spent some time talking about the characteristics of a man. Modern society aside, a man's job has not changed in centuries. We are to provide, work for that/those provisions, and leave a legacy. Regardless of subject matter, a man has a duty to ensure his family is provided for, his community is safe, and to accomplish this, he must recognize a number of things that are important. Those are, but not limited to, a strong group of men to surround him, for council, spiritual advice and the regular navigation of things a man will experience through life. The man must also ensure that his needs are aligned with the resources around him. To do this he must manage himself, and the resources he leverages to provide for his family. Conservation falls into this, as does the proper knowledge of how to use the tools of the trade. Lastly, a man must decide who he will follow. Choosing to follow the Lord, the man will align himself with the statutes and ordinances of the Lord, doing what is right, and being righteous. This man commits and then follows through.

Any other road leads to a life that will have more stretches of rough road, than smooth pavement. Living a good life means having a plan to do so. This is the true measure of a man.

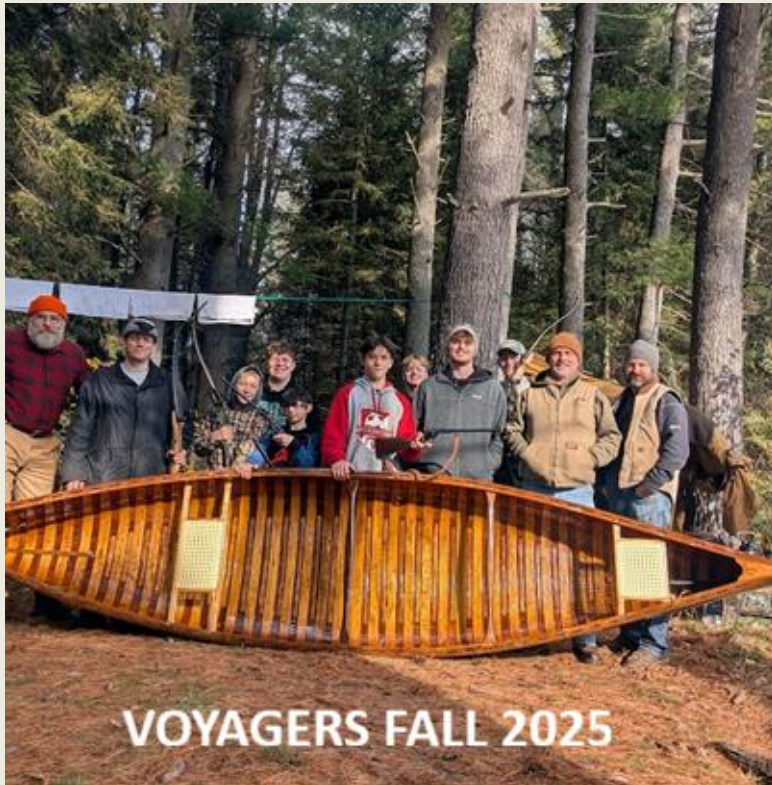
With that, the men, from young to old began to drift off to their bedrolls. Just a few of us now surrounded the fire drinking the last of the coffee. The tones are muffled now, barely audible to us over the sound of the crackling fire. The evening brings cooler air, and the ol' mercury is falling relatively fast – even now at 9 pm.

Just over the bank flows our silent partner, the Au Sable River, the water travelling down its relentless pursuit to reach the sea. The sparks zig and zag as they rise up towards the pitch black canopy of the giant pines surrounding the camp, as the flicker of the fire causes the shadows to dance about the camp. Even the shadows appear to have enjoyed the day. My last sip of coffee is cold now in the cup, so I rise to wrap up, close up camp and turn in myself. The food crate is hoisted up into the air, and each of the clasps are tied up on our crates. From time to time midnight bandits make their way into camp, and an unkept camp creates an amusement park for them, and a nightmare for the campers!



I turned in around 11 pm, or so – hard to tell when we do not use a clock, but anyway, they were all fast asleep with some low decibal snores emanating from the ranks... As I settled into my bag, I zipped up the sides around me, pulled my wool cap down, and looked up at the stars poking through the canopy. A few clouds were present, but it was going to be a cold one, that was for sure – clear and cold. It was a good day indeed!

I awoke again around 5 am. Looking about, everyone appeared to be covered with the canvas, which is key when sleeping out under the stars – and its cold. The canvas, pulled over your sleeping bag creates a really nice barrier. A canvas barrier that makes sleeping in the out of doors a pleasure! If you've never attempted this, you ought to try it. Good waxed canvas can be purchased in many stores, and when folded, the top pulled over your sleeping bag, does a really noce job insulating – even in the winter! Well, time to roust myself and get some coffee going.

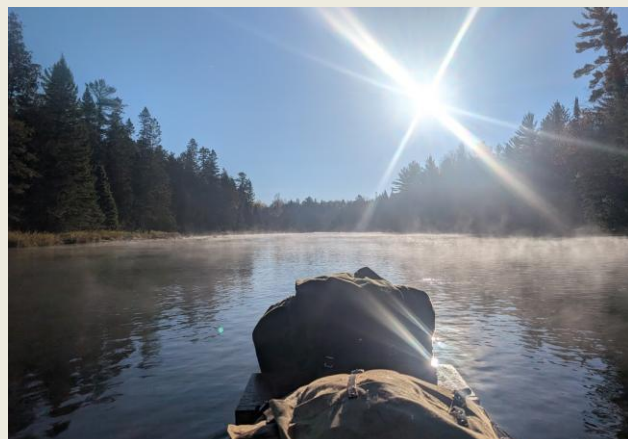
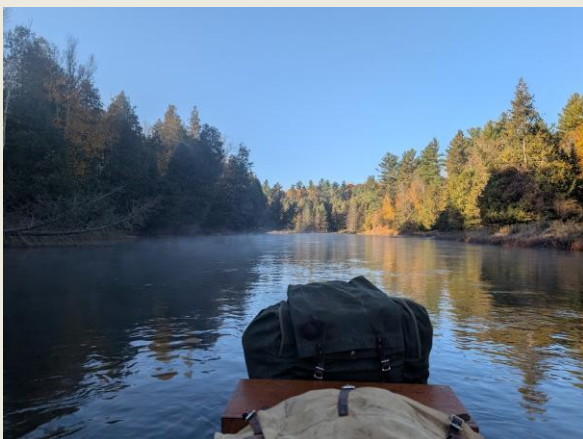


I had prepared the coffee before turning in, so all I had to do was ignite the ol' KampKook stove... this old cantankerous thing was made in 1923. It is a three burner set, and is really quite efficient – at least when the burners and gas tubes are cleaned – perfectly. A couple of pops, and it was throwing a nice even blue flame – we'll have hot coffee in minutes!

Percolators are time consuming, in an era where coffee can be brewed immediately. Despite this, we lean pretty hard on the old ways. Take a percolator for example. A pot of cold water, on the fire might take 10-12 minutes to boil, depening on the flame. Then, once its begins to 'perk', we give it 14 minutes – making sure it does not boil over. If planned correctly, it is really no issue, and the flavor is distinctively different from that of conventional coffees.

That first cup of camp coffee, wow, its great. Before long you're joined by another, and another – everyone seeking a nice hot cup of that wonderous coffee made in camp!

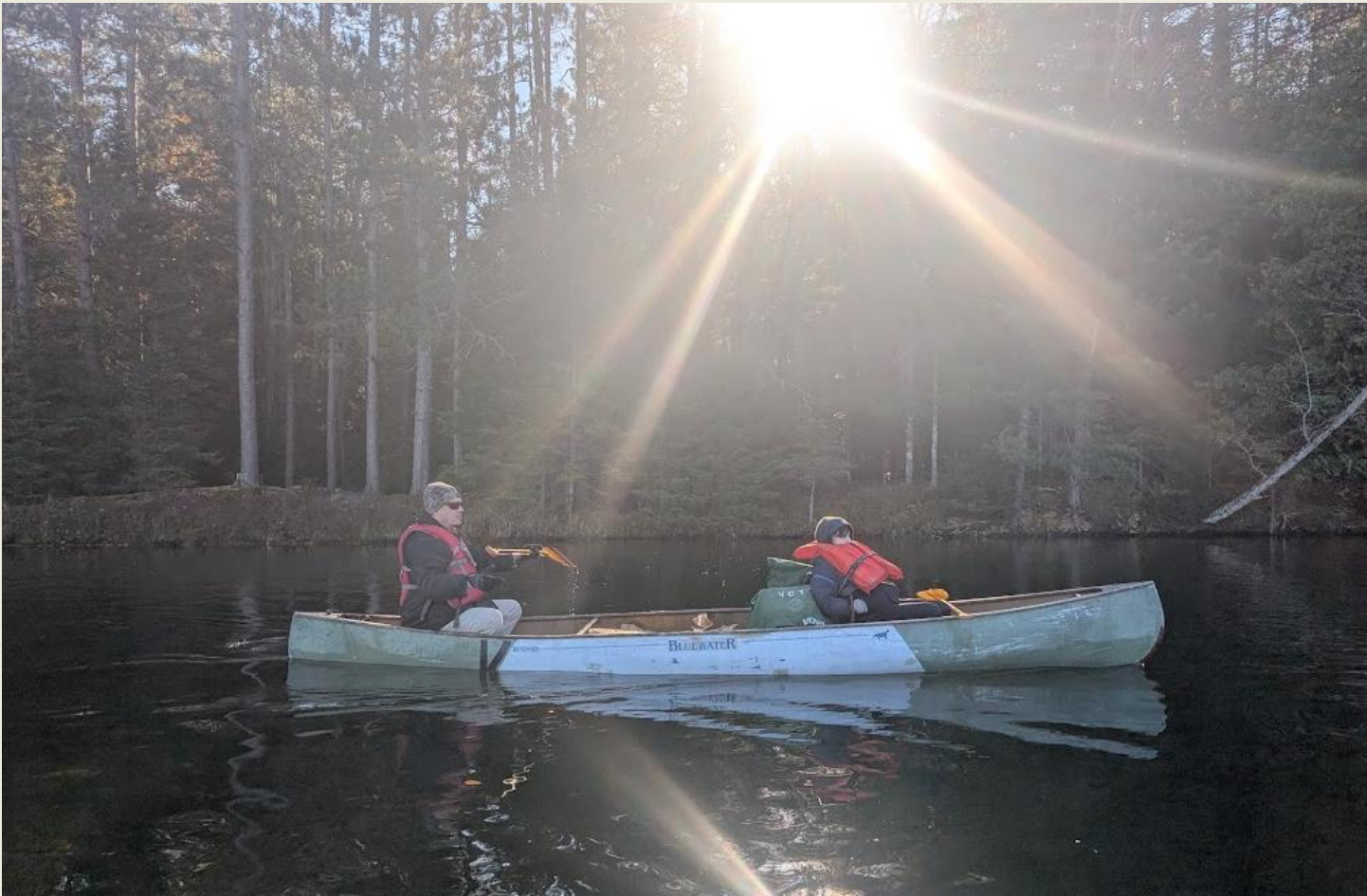
Sunday breakfast, while still made to order goes a bit faster. We begin taking down the camp, packing up and preparing for departure, which usually happens around 9 in the morning. The last items are packed while the last canoes are readied at the waters edge. We load, secure, and ensure all looks like it will ride. Then we run through the camp to be sure we have got everything. Sometimes you'll find a flashlight or possibly some other item that belongs to one of the young men.





Sunday devotion, along the river is always done with the Voyagers. We will find a good place to stop, and Andy Jerue will lead the group in a service. Today it was about King David, the story of this man's pursuit of greatness, and his ultimate fall from grace. The lesson was a great reminder for the young men – who heard how easy it is to become lost, ultimately making very bad decisions that could cost the lives of others. Andy asked what needs to be done when this occurs, and the group said we ask for Strength and Wisdom. Very good, after all, without them, a man can find himself in trouble – alienated from those he loves, or is responsible for. Are we walking in the light? A great question, at the end of a great Fall trip.







Thank you for your time again, and thank you for all of you who help the Voyagers to do what we do. We trust you have enjoyed reading a bit about our story, and perhaps you have been encouraged to get out of doors for your own adventure, away from the cares of state. It does not take much to do so, and you will certainly be glad that you did.

Remember, if you are planning to attend the Spring Voyagers Trip, or the September Father-Daughter Trip, get to the website and RSVP now, as seats fill up fast!

The dates may be found in this Newsletter or on our website at www.voyagerscanoetrips.com

Until we meet again,

Au Revoir

P.S. Don't forget to tune in for the Badge Holder Story – found exclusively on our Website = www.voyagerscanoetrips.com

*** Here is a BLAST FROM OUT PAST ***

RÉSUMÉ OF MICHIGAN FISHING AND HUNTING LAWS



A Likely Stream

CAMPING IN MICHIGAN
Baldwin is the center of sportmen. Within easy access are to be had the finest small lakes and trout streams, immense camping spots and one of the most delightful waters in the State—the Pere Marquette River. Baldwin annually entertains a number of Outing Clubs. It is one of the highest spots in western Michigan. The Baldwin Commercial Club, an organization of business men of the community, provides few camping sites on any of the lakes and arranges accommodations for visitors. Write Mr. H. W. Davis, Secretary, Baldwin, Mich.



Pere Marquette River, near Baldwin



Telling About the Big One He Caught

FISH
Non-Residents of State Must Have License
Non-resident license fee, \$1.00, to take all kinds of fish, including brook trout.
Non-resident license fee, \$1.00, to take all kinds of fish, excepting brook trout.

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON	NUMBER, SIZE AND POSSESSION	REGULATIONS
Trout and salmon, all kinds.	May 1st, to September 1st, inclusive.	Seven inches in length. Thirty-five in one day. Fifty in possession at any one time.	With hook and line only. Unlawful to buy or sell at any time or have in possession during closed season.
Black bass—large and small mouth.	June 15th to last day of February, inclusive.	Ten inches in length. Ten in one day. Ten in possession at any one time.	With hook and line only. Unlawful to buy or sell at any time, or have in possession during closed season.
Wall-eyed pike.	June 15th to last day of February, inclusive.	Ten inches in length. Twenty-five in one day. Twenty-five in possession at any one time.	With hook and line only. Unlawful to buy or sell at any time, or have in possession during closed season.
White bass, calico bass and rock bass.	May be caught during any season of the year.	Six inches in length. Twenty-five in one day. Twenty-five in possession at any one time.	With hook and line only. Unlawful to buy or sell at any time.
Blue gills, sunfish, perch and trappes.	May be caught during any season of the year.	Five inches in length. Twenty-five in one day. Twenty-five in possession at any one time.	With hook and line only. Unlawful to buy or sell at any time.
Suckers, mudcat, rock bass and grass pike.	May be caught during any season of the year.	Number and size unlimited.	With hook and line, also spear and dip net in streams during March and April and spear through the ice January and February, without artificial light.
All other kinds of fish, except brook trout, black bass and wall-eyed pike.	May be caught during any season of the year.	Number and size unlimited.	With hook and line only.
Frogs.	June 1st to October 31st, inclusive.	Number and size unlimited. Possession unlawful March 15th to May 31st, inclusive, except for scientific purposes.	Unlawful to spear with artificial light. Lawful to have in possession imported frogs, November 1st to March 15th, inclusive.
Clams, mudhacks and pearls.	July 1st to March 31st, inclusive.	Size and number unlimited.	Must secure license. Resident fee, \$1.00, non-resident fee, \$2.00. One day's legal catch of fish may be taken or shipped out of the State by licensed fisherman. Coupon from license must be attached to package.

GAME AND FUR BEARING ANIMALS

Game laws subject to change in August, 1917, as legislature is in session. Write State Game and Fish Commissioner, Lansing, Mich.

Unlawful to Hunt or Trap Without License.

Resident Fee	Non-Resident Fee	Alien Fee
Small game..... \$1.00	Small game..... \$2.00	Small game..... \$10.00
Deer..... 1.00	Deer..... 2.00	Deer..... 25.00

Residents of this State and their minor children exempt from license while hunting on their own enclosed lands upon which they are regularly domiciled.

KIND OF ANIMAL	OPEN SEASON	NUMBER AND POSSESSION	REGULATIONS
Moose, elk and caribou.	Unlawful to kill at any time.		Unlawful to have in possession at any time.
Deer.	November 15th to November 20th, inclusive.	One. Unlawful to have in possession more than thirty days after close of season.	Unlawful to use artificial light or dogs in hunting, or to kill deer in red coat or fawn in spotted coat or while in the water.
Rabbits and hares.	October 1st to March 1st, inclusive.	Unlimited. Legally killed may be transported and sold.	Unlawful to use ferrets or other rodents in hunting. Farmers and fruit growers may use ferrets to hunt rabbits on their own lands.
Squirrel (fox, black and gray).	Unlawful to kill until 1920.		Unlawful to have in possession at any time.